

wherein,

R<sub>1</sub> is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a methyl group or an ethyl group;

R<sub>2</sub> is a monovalent group selected from:

a straight or branched alkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms;

a straight or branched alkylene group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms;

a straight or branched alkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms wherein said phenyl ring is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein said phenyl ring is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 3 - 8 carbon atoms and is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 3 - 8 carbon atoms, is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS- and is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, and one or two of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) are mono-

or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedieryl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedieryl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedieryl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedieryl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, and one or two of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, said phenyl group being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a

trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedieryl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedieryl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedieryl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedieryl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, said phenyl ring being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 5 - 8 carbon atoms and is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 5 - 8 carbon atoms and is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms

optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-, and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- and one or two of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) being mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a phenyl or naphthyl group;

a phenyl group substituted with a methylenedioxy group;

a phenyl or naphthyl group which is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group, a phenoxy group, a phenylmethoxy group, a phenylmethoxy group wherein said phenyl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, trifluoromethyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group, a cycloalkylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl ring, a cycloalkenylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkenyl ring, a cycloalkanedienylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkanedienyl ring, a cycloalkylmethoxy group wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring having 5 - 8 carbon atoms is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, a cycloalkenylmethoxy group wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring having 5 - 8 carbon atoms is

replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, a cycloalkanediényl-methoxy group wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkanediényl ring having 5 - 8 carbon atoms is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- group, a cycloalkylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl ring wherein said cycloalkyl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxy group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, a cycloalkenylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkenyl ring wherein said cycloalkenyl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxy group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, or a cycloalkanediénylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkanediényl ring wherein said cycloalkanediényl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkanediényl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

an alkylphenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-;

an alkyl-O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms via -O-, -S- or -SS-;

an -O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group;

a diphenylamino group;

an alkylphenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS- and mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

an alkyl-O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms via -O-, -S- or -SS- and mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

an -O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group wherein said phenyl group is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

or

$R_1$  and  $R_2$ , together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, may form a divalent group selected from:

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a cycloalkyl group, a phenyl group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups ( $-CH_2-$ ) in said cycloalkyl ring is replaced by  $-O-$ ,  $-NH-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO-$  or  $-S(O)_2-$ ;

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups ( $-CH_2-$ ) in said cycloalkyl ring is replaced by  $-O-$ ,  $-NH-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-SO-$  or  $-S(O)_2-$  group and one or more of the unsubstituted methylene groups ( $-CH_2-$ ) in said cycloalkyl ring are mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono-, di-,



tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a cycloalkyl group, a phenyl group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- group and one or more of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring are mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkylidene group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkylidene group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms, said phenyl ring being mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio

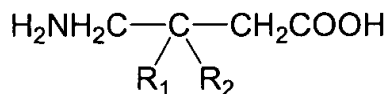
group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, said phenyl ring being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group.

Please amend claim 1 as follows.

1. (Twice Amended) A stabilized pharmaceutical preparation, comprising: (a) and  $\alpha$  amino acid; (b) an optional auxiliary agent for manufacturing a pharmaceutical preparation; and (c) a 4-amino-3-substituted-butanoic acid derivative, which 4-amino-3-substituted-butanoic acid derivative has the general formula:



wherein,

$\text{R}_1$  is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a methyl group or an ethyl group;

R<sub>2</sub> is a monovalent group selected from:

a straight or branched alkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms;

a straight or branched alkylene group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms;

a straight or branched alkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkyl group of 3 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms wherein said phenyl ring is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein said phenyl ring is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 3 - 8 carbon atoms and is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 3 - 8 carbon atoms, is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS- and is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, and one or two of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) are mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino

group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, and one or two of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, said phenyl group being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group,

an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedieryl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedieryl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenyl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedieryl group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedieryl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, said phenyl ring being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 5 - 8 carbon atoms and is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-, one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

an alkylcycloalkyl group wherein said cycloalkyl has 5 - 8 carbon atoms and is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-, and one of the methylene

groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring being replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- and one or two of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) being mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a phenyl or naphthyl group;

a phenyl group substituted with a methylenedioxy group;

a phenyl or naphthyl group which is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group, a phenoxy group, a phenylmethoxy group, a phenylmethoxy group wherein said phenyl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, trifluoromethyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group, a cycloalkylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl ring, a cycloalkenylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkenyl ring, a cycloalkanedienylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkanedienyl ring, a cycloalkylmethoxy group wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring having 5 - 8 carbon atoms is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, a cycloalkenylmethoxy group wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring having 5 - 8 carbon atoms is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, a

cycloalkanedieryl-methoxy group wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkanedieryl ring having 5 - 8 carbon atoms is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- group, a cycloalkylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl ring wherein said cycloalkyl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxy group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, a cycloalkenylmethoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkenyl ring wherein said cycloalkenyl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxy group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-, or a cycloalkanedieryl-methoxy group having 5 - 8 carbon atoms in the cycloalkanedieryl ring wherein said cycloalkanedieryl ring is mono-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group and one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkanedieryl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;



an alkylphenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS-;

an alkyl-O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms via -O-, -S- or -SS-;

an -O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group;

a diphenylamino group;

an alkylphenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms optionally interrupted with -O-, -S- or -SS- and mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

an alkyl-O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group wherein said phenyl group is linked to an alkylene group having 1 - 4 carbon atoms via -O-, -S- or -SS- and mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

an -O-, -S- or -SS-phenyl group wherein said phenyl group is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

or

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, may form a divalent group selected from:

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a cycloalkyl group, a phenyl group, an amino group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group;

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- group and one or more of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkyl ring are mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms which is mono-, di-,

tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a cycloalkyl group, a phenyl group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-;

a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms wherein one of the methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring is replaced by -O-, -NH-, =N-, -S-, -SO- or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>- group and one or more of the unsubstituted methylene groups (-CH<sub>2</sub>-) in said cycloalkenyl ring or cycloalkanedienyl ring are mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, an oxo group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkylidene group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkylidene group of 4 - 8 carbon atoms, said phenyl ring being mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio

group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms;

a condensed ring group formed by ortho-fusion of a phenyl ring with a cycloalkenylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms or a cycloalkanedienylidene group of 5 - 8 carbon atoms, said phenyl ring being mono- or di-substituted with a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, an amino group, a nitro group, a carboxyl group or a carboalkoxy group;

provided that when  $R_2$  is a phenyl or naphthyl group which is mono-, di- or tri-substituted with a halogen atom, the  $\alpha$ -amino acid is not glycine; and

provided that when the 4-amino-3-substituted-butanoic acid derivative is gabapentin and the  $\alpha$ -amino acid is a methyl-aspartic acid, the methyl aspartic acid is not methyl-D-aspartic acid.

### **Remarks**

New claims 23-24 have been added. No new matter is added. Claim 23 depends from claim 1 and further limits what the  $\alpha$ -amino acid could be. In addition to further limiting what the  $\alpha$ -amino acid could be, claim 24 also limits " $R_2$ " (i.e. where  $R_2$  is